

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the following paragraph(s) as shown below.

[0302] The gene for GASP2 was identified using a BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search Tool) query of the Human nucleotide database accessible through the National Center for Biotechnology Information (~~www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov~~). Using both the nucleotide and amino acid sequence of GASP1 (also referred to as KIAA0443, Genbank accession #NM_014710), the mRNA transcript for the putative GASP2 gene, "hypothetical protein BC013576" accession# NM_138437.1, was discovered to have very high homology at both the nucleotide and amino acid levels.